



Hanover Elementary School

208 Main Street
South Meriden, CT 06451
(203) 235-6359

Miguel A. Cardona, Principal

February 11, 2011

ETR

Dear Senator Joseph Crisco and Representative Robert Megna, Co-Chairmen of the Insurance and Real Estate Committee,

I am writing in support of both HB 6308, an act establishing the Connecticut Health Care Partnership, and HB 6305, the Sustinet health insurance plan. Both the Partnership and Sustinet bills would give municipalities additional options for purchasing quality, affordable health insurance coverage at lower costs. Every municipality in the state is facing rising costs and limited revenue.

From my perspective as an educator, I see first hand the effects of being uninsured or underinsured. Students without access to healthcare often come ill-prepared to learn and miss many school days due to lack of preventative and routine medical care. In many cases, these students eventually fall behind academically and require expensive remediation in later years. Your support of the HB 6308 and HB 6305 would also support our State's need to address achievement gaps for our students.

Currently, the ones most affected by the health care system are the hard working middle citizens; like you and me. In many ways, the two bills offer solutions to help our non-profit organizations and small businesses which serve as backbones to our communities. The Partnership bill would help non-profits and small employers (including small businesses of 1) to afford to offer quality health care to attract and retain skilled employees. Sustinet would go even further, providing a new insurance choice to individuals and large businesses and aggressively working to improve outcomes and lower costs.

Please work to provide this fundamental right for all Connecticut residents by supporting HB 6308 and HB 6305. Thank you.

Sincerely,

Miguel A. Cardona
Principal